

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-30 (Cancelled)

31. (New) An assembly comprising an expansion combination comprising an intumescent layer and a backer member retained by retention means for expansion in use, when subjected to a predetermined temperature, towards an opening in a panel and/or cover in order to close the opening whereby the expansion combination is secured by one part of the retention means and the cover and/or panel secured by an other part of the retention means, the assembly characterized in that the one part of the retention means is axially displaceable in relation to the other part of the retention means for altering of the effective length of the assembly in the direction of expansion in use of the intumescent material towards the opening or cover.

32. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the expansion combination comprises a pocket secured to the backer member and extending downwards towards the opening.

33. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the expansion combination includes a cover layer to confine and/or protect the intumescent layer.

34. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the backer member is relatively resilient and/or stable to provide a base for projection expansion of the intumescent layer.

35. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the backer member is formed from a fabric, paper or plastics material.

36. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the type and/or thickness of the intumescent material in the intumescent layer depends upon the distance between the position at which the expansion combination is retained and the opening.

37. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the assembly incorporates more than one expansion combination.

38. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the cover layer is perishable and/or flexible and/or displaceable in order not to inhibit expansion of the intumescent layer towards the opening or closure of the opening.

39. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the intumescent layer and the backer layer of the expansion combination, along with the cover layer when provided are secured together by securing means.

40. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 39 wherein the securing means is perishable and/or rupturable stitching or adhesive or displaceable clips.

41. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the retention means comprises a down member which retains the expansion combination above the opening.

42. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 41 wherein the down member includes a ledge for the expansion combination.

43. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 42 wherein the ledge is provided by a bend or kink in the down member.

44. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the retention means includes an up member to secure the panel and/or cover layer when provided.

45. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 44 wherein the retention means comprises a down member which retains the expansion combination above the opening and wherein the down member and the up member include respectively juxtaposed or overlapping ends to form when secured together the retention means.

46. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 44 wherein adjustment means is provided between the down member and the up member to allow adjustment of the length of the retention means for altering the effective length of the assembly.

47. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 44 wherein the adjustment means comprises a screwthread bolt.

48. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 44 wherein a bias, such as a compression or expansion spring, is provided between the up member and the down member.

49. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 47 wherein a bias, such as a compression or expansion spring, is provided between the up member and the down member and the bolt extends through the bias.

50. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 44 wherein the respective up member and down member have juxtaposed or overlapping ends which are substantially perpendicular.

51. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 46 wherein the adjustment means can be adjusted dependent upon a depth of thickness of a ceiling or structure into which the assembly is to be mounted.

52. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the retention means is made from a metal or plastics material.

53. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the assembly incorporates more than one retention means to act in cooperation.

54. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 45 wherein the juxtaposed or overlapping ends are flats upon which the adjustment means acts in use.

55. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein a cover end is secured to the cover or panel by securing means such as a screw fastening or pop rivet or other mechanical fixing or a recess or by ledge engagement.

56. (New) An assembly as claimed in Claim 46 wherein the adjustment means includes lock means to lock the desired adjustment of the adjustment means.

57. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 53 wherein the retention means cooperates with a ventilation opening in a cover to facilitate heat dissipation caused by normal operation of a lighting element.

58. (New) An assembly as claimed in claim 31 wherein the opening which is closed by the expansion combination is one or more ventilation openings of a cover and/or an aperture in a cavity to accommodate the assembly.